

7.1 goal

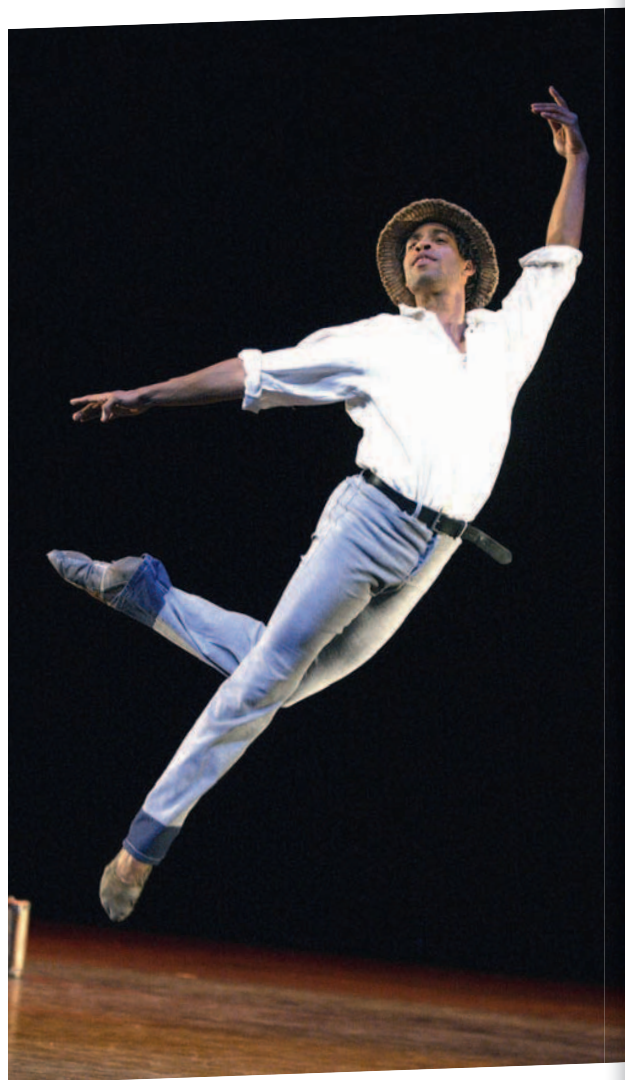
describe qualities you need for different activities

7 Personal qualities

A high achiever

READING

- 1 Read the 5-minute interview with Carlos Acosta. What kind of person do you think he is?



ArtsComment

The 5-minute interview: Carlos Acosta

The Cuban ballet dancer Carlos Acosta has danced for many ballet companies including the Royal Ballet in London and the National Ballet of Cuba, where he was principal. In recent years, he has danced all over the world as an International Guest Artist. He has won numerous international prizes and is considered by many to be the best male dancer in the world.



A phrase I use too often is ...

'You know' or 'You know what I mean'. You know what I mean?

I wish people would take more notice of ...

The importance of art in society. We need to have more support from the government. Not just in the UK – everywhere.

The most surprising thing that happened to me was ...

When my father went to jail. That was very surprising.

I'm good at ...

Learning things quickly, especially movement. And I can remember things for a long time.

I'm very bad at ...

Art. I can't paint or draw. I just don't have any talent.

The ideal night out is ...

Time spent with normal people, just having a good time and learning.

You know me as a dancer but in another life I'd have been ...

A musician or a sportsman. I wanted to be a footballer when I was a child.

The best age to be is ...

Now. I'm mature but I still have youth – it's a good balance.

In weak moments I ...

Just have to have faith in myself and trust the people around me.

In a nutshell, my philosophy is this:

Do whatever makes you happy, however you want it.

Because life is special.



- 2 **a** Read the interview again. Find four facts about Carlos's life and two of his opinions.
b Close your books. Talk together. What can you remember about Carlos Acosta?
- 3 Complete the sentences from the interview so they're true for you.
A phrase I use too often is 'I don't believe it!'.
- 4 **a** Listen to each other's sentences. Ask questions to find out more details.
b Tell the class the most surprising thing you found out about your partner.

WRITING AND SPEAKING

I'm good at maths.

Really? What's 23 multiplied by 15?

It's the kind of job that ...

VOCABULARY

Personal qualities

1 a Read these opinions about success. Do you agree? Why? Why not?

“ You need to **have faith in** the people around you. ”

Naoko, Japan

“ You have to **have discipline** to keep going, mentally as well as physically. ”

Anne, Ghana

“ You can't be successful if you don't **have any talent**. ”

Lucilla, Brazil

“ You have to **have initiative**. You can't wait for someone to tell you what to do! ”

Craig, Scotland

“ It's good to **have an open mind** about things. You never know what's going to happen next. ”

Asim, Egypt

“ You need to **have confidence**. People listen to confident people. ”

Juan, Spain

b What personal qualities do you need:

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 in the army? | 4 when you fail at something? |
| 2 when you work alone? | 5 if you want to be famous? |
| 3 in an emergency? | 6 to be a dancer? |

c Talk together. Do you have the same or different ideas?

LISTENING



Anne is Ghanaian

2 2.13 Listen to Anne talking about being a dancer. Put these topics in the order she talks about them:

- competition
- body shape
- motivation
- disappointment

3 2.13 Listen again. Which of these things does she say are important?

- You need to ...
- 1 ... really want to be a dancer.
 - 2 ... be pushed by your parents.
 - 3 ... have discipline.
 - 4 ... be skinny.
 - 5 ... have confidence in yourself.
 - 6 ... be able to take rejection.
 - 7 ... have some luck.

4 Talk together. Do you agree with the statements?

- 1 Parents should push their children to be successful.
- 2 Success is about being in the right place at the right time.

5 Look at the sentences from Anne's interview. In which other jobs are these qualities important? Make a list.

1	You need to be You have to be	someone the kind of person the sort of person	who that	never gives up. can take rejection well. keeps going.
2	It's That's	something the kind of job the sort of thing	that	needs a lot of discipline. requires a lot of confidence. people don't really understand.

6 Work alone. Write three or four sentences about your job, and the sort of person it would suit. Use expressions from 1 and 5.

Nursing is the kind of job that requires a lot of patience. You also need to have discipline ...

7 a Tell each other about the jobs. Try and find someone who would be suitable for each job.

b Tell the class who you chose and why.

VOCABULARY

Matching people to jobs and activities

Acting is the kind of job that looks easier than it really is.

SPEAKING

7.2

7.2 goals

- ⊙ describe personality
- ⊙ make comparisons

A great character

READING

- 1 Why do you think people keep pets?
What are the advantages and disadvantages of having pets?
- 2 a You're going to read an article about the personalities of people and their pets. Before you read, do you think these statements are true or false?
 - 1 Married couples become more alike after being together for a long time.
 - 2 Animals don't have personalities like humans do.
 - 3 Pets become more like their owners over time.
- b Read the article. What does it say about 1-3?

NEWSONLINE

Can pets and their owners 'become more alike over time'?

Pets and their owners are just like married couples and they get more alike over time, a psychologist claimed yesterday. Prof Richard Wiseman asked almost 2,500 people to complete online questionnaires about their characters and those of their pets. He found that many dog lovers, cat owners and even reptile keepers said they shared many of the same traits – such as happiness, intelligence, independence and a sense of humour – as their pets.

But he also discovered that the longer an animal had been with its owner, the more likely it was to have picked up their characteristics. Prof Wiseman said: "For years owners have insisted their pets have a unique personality. This work suggests they might be right, but it also reveals that people's pets are a reflection of themselves." He went on to say: "It's like with married couples. They grow to look like each other and to have similar personalities. It's possible we are seeing a similar effect."



- 3 Do you know anyone who has a pet? Do you think they and their pet are similar? Give examples.

LISTENING

- 4 Which photo A-E shows: a dog a hamster a parrot a goldfish a lizard
- 5 a 2.14 Listen to five people talking about pets. Match the people 1-5 with the pets in photos A-E.



- b 2.14 Listen again. Are any of the people similar to their pets? In what way?
- c Check in the script on p153.

VOCABULARY

Personality

6 a These adjectives and nouns often go together. Which adjective is used with each noun 1–3 in the listening? Check in the script on pp153–4.

1 a	difficult great character miserable	2 a/an	interesting strange person calm	3 a	bright nice guy/woman charming
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b Choose expressions from 6a to complete these sentences.

- My boss is a _____. She's not easy to get on with.
- It was fascinating talking to your sister. She's a very _____.
- My new assistant is a _____. He learns things really quickly.
- That teacher is such a _____. She never smiles at anyone.
- The new managing director is a _____. I just don't understand him.
- My brother finds it easy to get whatever he wants. He's such a _____.

SPEAKING

7 a Think of people you've met in the last five years. Think about how to describe them using the expressions in 6a.

b Talk together. Ask questions to find out more.

My new neighbour's a very interesting person.

Interesting? In what way?

Similarity and difference

GRAMMAR

Comparing

1 a Complete the sentences from the listening with the words in the grey boxes. Then check in the script on p153.

Comparatives 1 He's <i>much</i> friendlier than a lot of the ones you see. 2 I am _____ more fussy . 3 Watching him is _____ better than watching television. 4 I am _____ more intelligent than him.	A _____	B _____
	<i>much</i> <i>a lot</i> <i>lots</i> <i>far</i>	<i>a little</i> <i>a bit</i> <i>slightly</i> <i>marginally</i>
as ... as ... 5 We certainly are _____ as tolerant as we used to be. 6 I enjoy my food _____ as much as he enjoys his.	C _____	D _____
	<i>almost</i> <i>nearly</i> <i>not quite</i>	<i>just</i>

Grammar reference and practice, p139

b Match meanings 1–3 with A–D in the highlighted expressions above.

- 1 a small difference (x2) 2 a big difference 3 the same

PRONUNCIATION

Contrastive stress

2 a You can stress a word to compare or contrast it with something else.

2.15 Listen and notice which words have contrastive stress in this sentence:

Watching **him** is far better than watching **television**.

b Which words can you stress to make a contrast in these sentences?

- Tim's generally a calm person, so she tends to be calm now too.
- I enjoy my food just as much as he enjoys his.
- If their owner gets stressed, then they get stressed too.

c **2.16** Listen and look at the script on p153 to check. Practise saying the sentences.

SPEAKING

3 Choose a friend or family member and use the highlighted expressions in 1a to write five or six sentences about:

- the ways you're similar and different.
- how you've both changed over the years.

4 a Discuss your sentences. Ask questions to find out more.

b Talk together. Who would you most like to meet?

My brother's a really nice guy, but he's not nearly as bright as me!

Do you get on with him?